

Message Text

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14

ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 AID-01 SS-07 NEA-07 NSC-06 ISO-00 /025 W

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R 101051Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5168

INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ABU DHABI 3005

CODEL ABOUREZK

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS : OREP (ABOUREZK, JAMES)

SUBJECT : CODEL ABOUREZK: GIFTS FROM UAEG

1. DURING HIS STAY HERE SENATOR ABOUREZK AND OTHER OFFICIAL MEMBERS OF HIS PARTY WERE PRESENTED WITH SEVERAL GIFTS--TWO WATCHES, A DAGGER AND A GOLD SWORD IN AN INLAID CASE. ALL ARE CLEARLY WORTH MORE THAN \$50 AND THUS CANNOT BE RETAINED. THE SENATOR TURNED OVER THE SWORD AND THE WATCHES TO EMBOFFS AT THE AIRPORT (THE DAGGER WHICH HAD BEEN RECEIVED EARLIER IN SHARJAH WAS IN LUGGAGE AND INACCESSIBLE) FOR SHIPMENT BACK TO WASHINGTON.

2. SENATOR IS FULLY APPRECIATIVE OF THE REGULATIONS AND HAS NO FURTHER INTEREST IN WATCHES. HE DID INQUIRE WHETHER THERE MIGHT NOT BE SOME WAY IN WHICH THE DAGGER AND SWORD COULD BE GIVEN OR LOANED TO A SOUTH DAKOTA MUSEUM. SENATOR HAS NO WISH PERSONALLY TO RETAIN THESE TWO ITEMS BUT DOES HOPE THAT WAY CAN BE FOUND SO THAT THESE ITEMS CAN BE DISPLAYED TO THE PUBLIC, NOT LOCKED UP SOMEWHERE TO GATHER DUST.

3. EMBASSY CURRENTLY IN PROCESS OF GETTING SWORD BOXED AND WILL THEN SHIP ALL ITEMS VIA POUCH TO DEPT ATTN NEA/ARP FOR FURTHER DISPOSITION. SUGGEST DEPT ADVISE SENATOR'S OFFICE RE POSSIBILITIES FOR HANDLING THESE ITEMS.

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4. WE HAVE REMINDED MFA OF USG REGULATIONS ON GIFTS TO EMPLOYEES OF USG AND URGED THAT IF ANY GIFTS ARE PROVIDED THEY BE SMALL AND INEXPENSIVE OF SYMBOLIC VALUE. SINCE SENATOR'S GIFTS WERE SENT BY UAE PRESIDENT SHAIKY ZAYID, AND RULER OF SHARJAH IN CASE OF DAGGER, MINISTRY OFFICIALS DID NOT OFFER TO TAKE THEM BACK.
DICKMAN

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